

**Abstract**

The invention relates to a chain assembly method for joining a single or multiple link-plate chain having alternating, uncranked outer and inner chain links using prefabricated inner chain links in particular comprising two parallel link plates and parallel hollow pins connecting the latter. This assembly method is to be simplified as compared with production methods used hitherto for link plate chains. For this purpose, the method comprises the following steps:

providing at least one completely prefabricated inner chain link (1),  
positioning the inner chain link (1) so that the hollow pin axis (A) of the at least one inner chain link (1) is aligned substantially parallel to the supporting or retaining face of the inner chain link (1),  
providing at least one link pin (6, 7), positioning the at least one link pin (6, 7) so that the pin axis (A) is arranged coaxially with the hollow pin axis (A) of the associated hollow pin (4, 5) of an inner chain link (1),  
inserting the link pin (6, 7) into the hollow pin (4, 5) by means of relative displacement of the link pin (6, 7) and of the at least one inner chain link (1) in relation to each other so that the end regions of the link pin (6, 7) project on both sides,  
providing at least one pair of outer link plates (10, 11), so that each end region of a link pin (6, 7) is assigned one of the outer link plates (10, 11) of a pair of outer link plates and the axis (B) of the receiving hole (12, 13) is aligned with the axis (A) of the associated link pin (6, 7),  
pressing the two outer link plates (10, 11) of a pair of outer link plates in one operation onto the end regions of two link pins (6, 7) to produce an outer chain link connected to at least two inner chain links (1) arranged in a row,

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riveting the ends of the link pins (6, 7).